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JAN 06 2004
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS & TRADEMARKS

2856

Appl. No. 10/018,157
Amdt. Dated December 31, 2003
Reply to Office action of October 3, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/018,157
Applicant : Carine Van Hille et al.
Filed : December 6, 2001
Title : SAMPLING DEVICE

TC/A.U. : 2856
Examiner : Robert R. Raevis
Docket No. : 34110

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AMENDMENT A

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office action dated October 3, 2003 (Paper No. 5).

The three month period for responding to the Office action expires on January 3, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner.

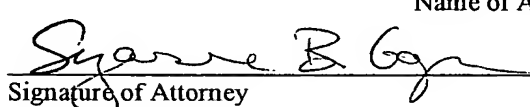
Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Suzanne B. Gagnon

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)



Signature of Attorney

12-31-2003

Date